

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:STESCUDERO:PAW

APPROVED BY NEA:ARDBY

NEA/AFN:WSWEISLOGEL

NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

PM:RSMITH

L/PM:TBOREK

DOD/ISA:JWOOTEN

NEA/IRN:CNAAS

NEA/RA:RHOBBS

S/S:OP. SHANKLE

----- 125355

O R 172300Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 094155

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MO, SO, IR

SUBJECT:MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MOROCCO

REF: TEHRAN 3716

1. YOU MAY RESPOND TO GEN. MASSUMI'S QUERIES AS FOLLOWS:

A. TRANSFER OF MAP-ORIGIN F-5 MUST BE HANDLED DIFFERENTLY
FROM THAT OF FMS-ORIGIN AIRCRAFT. SECTION 505 (A) (4) OF
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961 AS AMENDED PROVIDES THAT
RESIDUAL TITLE OF MAP ITEMS REMAINS WITH US. RECIPIENT

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NATIONS WISHING TO DISPOSE OF MAP EXCESS HAVE OPTION OF

PURCHASING OUR RESIDUAL RIGHTS AT APPROXIMATELY 5 PERCENT OF ORIGINAL PURCHASE COST OR RETURNING ITEMS TO US. MAP EQUIPMENT REGAINED BY US IS SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE USE BY US FORCES. SHOULD THERE BE NO AMERICAN NEED FOR EXCESS ITEMS, USG COULD OFFER THEM, USING MIMEX PROCESS, FOR FMS SALE OR MAP REDISTRIBUTION GRANT TO ELIGIBLE THIRD PARTIES. ALTERNATIVELY, USG COULD DECLARE ITEMS EXCESS, FOR SALE TO HIGHEST BIDDER. FYI: GAO PAYS CLOSE ATTENTION TO OPERATIONS OF MAP REDISTRIBUTION PROGRAM. END FYI. AS ABOVE SUGGESTS, THERE ARE, IN PRACTICE, FEW THIRD-PARTY TRANSFERS OF MAP-ORIGIN DEFENSE ARTICLES.

B. U. S. ROLE IN TRANSFER OF HOWITZERS AND PLANES IS LIMITED TO PROCESSING APPROVAL OF TRANSACTION. ALL DETAILS OF PHYSICAL MOVEMENT OF EQUIPMENT MUST BE WORKED OUT BY TEHRAN, AMMAN AND RABAT. HOWITZERS AND PLANES NEED NOT REPEAT NOT PHYSICALLY TRANSIT JORDAN BUT CAN BE SHIPPED DIRECT FROM IRAN TO MOROCCO. HOWEVER, SUCH SHIPMENT MUST NOT REPEAT NOT COMMENCE UNTIL DEPARTMENT FORMALLY NOTIFIES EMBASSY TEHRAN OF USG APPROVAL OF BOTH TRANSFERS, I.E., TRANSFER TO JORDAN AND SUBSEQUENT TRANSFER FROM JORDAN TO MOROCCO. WE PRESUME MOVEMENT OF HOWITZERS WILL TAKE PLACE BY SEA AS THE M109A1B IS TOO LARGE TO BE TRANSPORTED BY C-130, AND USG DOES NOT REPEAT NOT INTEND TO MAKE C-5'S AVAILABLE FOR THIS OPERATION.

2. BEFORE AUTHORIZING TRANSFER, DEPARTMENT WILL WANT CONFIRMATION FROM GOVERNMENT OF IRAN OF CLEAR UNDERSTANDING WITH GOVERNMENT OF MOROCCO REGARDING MODALITIES OF REPLACEMENT OF HOWITZERS. RABAT 1881 SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT MOROCCO INTENDS TO REPLACE HOWITZERS WITH SAME. MOREOVER, WE HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED IF GOM HAS AGREED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOI DESIRE (TEHRAN 2068) TO CEDE ITS PLACE ON HOWITZER ASSEMBLY LINE AND TO AUTHORIZE DOD TO PREPARE NEW LOA, OR IF TRANSFER IS TO TAKE PLACE LATER, AFTER MOROCCO HAS ACTUALLY ACQUIRED THE HOWITZERS. ROBINSON

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